

WHAT'S INSIDE

Fine tuning

See Page 1B

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

Grant applications available now

Spouses and dependent children of active duty and retired military members at Robins working toward undergraduate degrees have an opportunity to earn \$1,500 grants from the Air Force Aid Society.

Eligible recipients may apply for the grants for the 2004-2005 school year from now until March 12.

The money comes from the Gen. Henry H. (Hap) Arnold Education Grant program funded by contributions made to the Air Force Aid Society's annual April campaign.

Ms. Janice Barnes, Air Force Aid officer here, said applying early is important because in addition to the initial application, applicants are required to answer a second, more detailed, questionnaire the Air Force Aid Society will mail.

The grants are for full-time undergraduates in colleges, universities or vocational or trade schools whose accreditation is approved by the U.S. Department of Education for participation in federal aid programs.

Applicants must maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale.

Forms are available at he Family Support Center and at [www.afas.org](http://www.afas.org), follow the education link to the form.

— Mrs. Chris Zdrakas

NCO program mass briefing

There will be a mass briefing about the noncommissioned officer retraining program at the Base Theater Tuesday at 9 a.m. For more information, contact Senior Airman Rashaud R. Smith at 327-7352.

NCMA luncheon

The National Contract Management Association luncheon will be at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 18 at the Officers' Club ballroom. There will be a presentation by Mr. George Falldine, WR-ALC Plans and Programs director, at 11:45 a.m. He will discuss new Air Logistics Center transformation initiatives. Anyone interested in attending should contact Mr. Gerald Brunson at 926-7086.

Officers' Hail and Farewell ceremony

There will be an Officers' Hail and Farewell ceremony Feb. 20 at 4 p.m. in the Officers' Club ballroom. Spouses are invited to attend the event and fellowship which follows. For more information, contact Capt. Jeff Styers, WRALC/LF, at 926-3873, or e-mail him at [jeffrey.styers@robins.af.mil](mailto:jeffrey.styers@robins.af.mil).

ROBINS

RevUp

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Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Wetekam: On the right course

Center Office of Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam loves to run. On any given day you'll see him making his way around the base, one foot falling in front of the other with the precise rhythm of a metronome. In a few short days, he'll make his last lap as commander of this air logistics center.

On Feb. 17, General Wetekam will hand the reigns of responsibility over to Brig. Gen. Michael A. Collings in a change of command ceremony at the Museum of

Aviation's Century of Flight Hangar. The general will also add a star in that ceremony when he is promoted to the grade of lieutenant general. After that, he will move on to his new position as Air Force deputy chief of staff for Installations and Logistics at the Pentagon. Before he left, the general took a final lap with the Rev-Up:

**Q. During your time here, you've focused on three major issues - process improvement, partnerships with industry and people. How well is the Center doing?**

A. I think we've done well in two years. We've done a lot and made a lot of progress in each area. Am I satisfied with any of the three? No, in the sense that there is still a lot of work to be done. We've chosen Lean as the centerpiece of our process improvement strategy. I think we've done a good job in the last two years of getting that deployed, getting the word out, and going from an experimentation phase to more of an implementation phase across the



U.S. Air Force photo by Ms. Sue Sapp  
Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam, Center commander, hands over the reigns of responsibility to Brig. Gen. Michael A. Collings Feb. 17.

Please see **WETEKAM, 2A**

Zero tolerance



U.S. Air Force photos by Ms. Sue Sapp

Weapons, like the ones above, are not allowed at Robins. Civilians and military members face stiff penalties for bringing weapons on base.

Weapons violations draw sharp penalties

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
[lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil)

The recent conviction of a Robins employee for violating weapons regulations on base has led the 78th Security Forces Investigations Office to send an important message to everyone who enters Robins' gates - there is zero tolerance for the possession of prohibited weapons.

"If you bring an illegal weapon onto this installation and we find out about it, you're in trouble," Tech. Sgt. Samel Brown, noncommissioned officer in charge of special investigations. "It's as simple as that."

What to know

Air Force instruction 31-101 sets all provisions for security on base which includes the possession of weapons. This instruction is available on the Robins Web site under publications. For hunting and skeet shooting rules and regulations, call Outdoor Recreation at 926-4001.

Though provisions specifically stating the rules and regulations for weapons violations are posted at each gate, there are workers who don't comply.

Please see **GUN, 2A**



Tech. Sgt. Samel Brown, NCOIC of the 78th Security Forces Squadron Investigations Office, shows off a confiscated pistol.

Effort means some can leave active duty early

By Maj. John J. Thomas  
Air Force Personnel Center  
Public Affairs

AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER - There's good news for thousands of airmen considering leaving active duty who thought they couldn't because of existing service obligations.

An effort dubbed 'force shaping' is opening the exit doors to officers and enlisted in select career fields and year groups by waiving some active-duty service commitments previously incurred for events like government-funded education, permanent changes of station and promotion.

Force Shaping includes opportunities to transition to the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard; as well as relieving some people of their active-duty service commitments.

Rules for leaving active duty early will be the least restrictive for anyone wanting to transfer to the Guard or reserve through the PALACE CHASE program.

Some bonus payback requirements may be waived. Applications for any of the early release programs must be made through local military personnel flights by March 12.

More than 16,000 additional people than are projected to leave - 12,700 enlisted and 3,900 officers - will be allowed out to help the service return to the authorized force size by Sept. 30, 2005.

Due to manning shortages, 29 officer and 38 enlisted specialties will not qualify for many of the waivers.

Among those are pilots, navigators, air battle managers, aerial gunners, fuels specialists, nurses, and first sergeants.

The complete list of 'stressed' career fields that are excluded from many of the waivers is posted at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape>.

Details and career counseling are available from unit career assistance advisors at each base. People can also call the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or toll-free (800) 616-3775 for more information.

Army gate Guardsmen mark one-year anniversary

Sgt. Vincent Walton, 1177th Transportation Company, right, talks with Senior Airman Johnny Seay, 78th Security Forces Squadron.



U.S. Air Force photo by Ms. Sue Sapp

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
[lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil)

Nearly one year ago more than 100 Georgia National Guardsmen from the 1177th Transportation Company out of LaGrange, Ga., became a part of the Robins family.

Hailing from cities around the state, they stand shoulder to shoulder with the 78th Security Forces Squadron ensuring the safety of the base.

Sgt. Vincent Walton, 1177th

transportation specialist, is but one of those force multipliers who proudly works eight-to-10 hour shifts, making sure those who enter Robins have the right credentials.

The father of two said he misses his wife and children, but knowing he's helping with the defense of the nation makes it a little easier.

"It gives me great pleasure to protect and serve," he said. And to know that the people at Robins and in the surrounding

area are grateful makes it even better. We get a lot of thank yous, on and off duty. That's what makes us feel worthwhile."

While smiles, appreciation and pats on the back are comforting, nothing can relieve the strain of being away from home.

The Columbus, Ga., resident said his 12-year-old son has been affected a great deal

Please see **GATE, 2A**

**Robins 3-day forecast**  
Courtesy of 78th OSS/OSW

**Today**  
Cloudy with showers and thunderstorms

67/56

**Saturday**  
Partly cloudy then clear

53/40

**Sunday**  
Clear

52/28

**What's inside**

AAFES manager part of team that brought store to Mosul **3A**  
Innovative environmental cleanup initiated by EM **7A**  
Legal Office outlines election rules for civilians, military **3B**  
MA employee receives recreation volunteer award **5B**



# WETEKAM

Continued from 1A

board. The second one has to do with partnering with industry. Again, we’ve made a lot of progress if you go back to where we were then and where we are today. We’ve certainly established several more partnerships and matured the ones that we already had. I’m real pleased with the progress but there’s still a lot to do there. I’ll add that when I talk about partnering, it is not outsourcing. Some people use the term partnering as kind of a cover, I do not. I’m talking about true partnerships where we work together to leverage the best of both worlds. We have a lot of examples of that at Robins. Partnerships have garnered a lot of additional work in many areas because we’ve been able to partner

with our major defense contractors. The third area of focus is our people. It’s last, but it’s probably most important because everything we do hinges upon our people. How we develop our work environment? what type of work environment do we have here? What is the human relations climate that we’ve worked so hard to try and improve? Do people feel comfortable coming to work? Are they treated the way they need to be, and also how do we develop our work force? How do we train and educate our work force? How do we recruit our work force? And how can we do that better? Again there are a lot of initiatives, there is a lot of progress that I’ve seen in the last two years, and there’s a long list of initiatives that we’ve undertaken, but am I satisfied with it?

No. Not by a long shot. I’m happy that we’re on the right course, and I’m confident we’re on the right course, but there’s a tremendous amount of work to be done. **Q. If there was a piece of advice you’d offer Team Robins to help keep the Center viable, what would it be?** A. I’m not too much into offering advice, but I guess it would be keep the focus on the war fighter and on what we’re doing. The war on terrorism is a long and hard struggle. We need to understand that we continue to have a vital role in that. What Robins does is going to continue to be very important to the successful outcome of that endeavor. **Q. In your new position, you’ll address many issues that have lasting impact on our base. How will your**

**tenure as an air logistics center commander help in your decision processes?** A. It has given me a better understanding of the whole-sale logistics process both in terms of what we do in product support and sustainment management, and what our industrial capabilities are. Now I had some of that background before I got here, but I have a deeper understanding of that, and that’s clearly going to be a major issue in the job I’m going to. It certainly gives me a lot more depth of experience than I had before. **Q. Robins, in fact the Air Force, faces significant challenges as it attempts to reshape – transform itself - – into the best fighting machine for the 21st century. What can be done here to make sure we have a significant role in that future force?**

A. We’re already playing a pivotal role in that. As we talk about transforming the military, we’re talking about the things that we’re already working on - process improvement, partnering with industry, development of our people and also the role that we play in the global war on terrorism which will be pivotal to our transformation efforts, and is today. **Q. What are your feelings on the relationship between the Center and the local community?** A. Well I’ve said many times publicly and privately that I’ve never really seen community support that rivals what we have at Robins. There might be a place somewhere else in the United States military that enjoys the same level of support that we have, but I’ve never seen it. We’re truly intertwined. I don’t view this

as you do at a lot of places where there’s community on one side and the base on the other. There are some support activities that go on back and forth. In this case, it’s truly one community. **Q. Is there anything you would like to add?** A. I just really want to commend the men and women at Robins Air Force Base for what they’ve done. I want to thank them personally for their great support. I’ve made so many good friends here - both in the community and on the base, and I will tell you that I’m really humbled by the many kind words that my wife and I have received - especially over the last few months as people knew that we were leaving. I thank the community; I thank the men and women at Robins for what they do each and every day. God bless them all.

# WEAPON

Continued from 1A

According to the Judge Advocate General’s office, penalties for military members who break these rules are far from a slap on the wrist. Penalties include confinement, rank reduction and loss of pay. Ms. Dee Dial, special assistant U.S attorney, said civilians could also lose big with prison time, large fines or both. Mr. Mark Henderson, chief of security investigations, said a detailed description of what constitutes dangerous and illegal weapons is available on the Robins Web site. “We take proactive measures such as random vehicle searches using military working dogs to look for contraband,” he said. “It’s not uncommon for one of the dog teams

to alert on a vehicle and find ammunition or weapons.” If a hit is made, the owner of the vehicle is asked for consent to search. “If the owner gives consent, then we search the car. If any illegal items are found, charges are made,” said Sergeant Brown. “If the owner doesn’t give consent and there’s probable cause to search, a call goes in to the magistrate who can give authority to search without consent. There’s no getting around it.” Mr. Henderson said national defense is the top priority. “A working dog alert on explosives may be as small as a box of ammunition, but we can’t make the assumption that it’s a small weapon or small ammunition,” he said. “We go with the idea that it’s a direct danger to our vital resources.” There are some exceptions to the

## The rules

Under Article 92, of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, military personnel who violate a lawful general regulation regarding the possession, carrying, storage or disposition of firearms could face court-martial punishment of a dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for two years, and reduction to E-1. Under Article 134 of the code, any military personnel who carry a dangerous, concealed weapon without proper authority could face a bad conduct discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, confinement for one year, and reduction to E-1. Civilians could face maximum penalties of one year imprisonment, a \$100,000 fine or both. Civilians could also face possible administrative disciplinary action.

rule for those who live on base. “People who live in base housing may have privately-owned, legal weapons in their home,” said the sergeant. “They must register the weapon within five duty days of occupying government quarters.” Illegal weapons should be given to their first sergeant who will give

them to security forces investigations until the evidence disposal board witnesses the weapon’s destruction. A 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week armory is available for those who are on base short term. Those in billeting or the base dorms can use the armory and check out the firearms when

they leave the base. While that is one exception to the rule, another is recreational firearms used for hunting or skeet shooting. These firearms do not have to be registered on base. “There are certain weapons that can be brought on base during certain times of the year,” he said. “Long rifles are never allowed because the trajectory of the rifle would be a threat or danger to aircraft, but shotguns are allowed during hunting season.” When carrying a firearm, it’s the owner’s responsibility to take the most direct route to their competition, hunting area or the armory. “We don’t want them to have the weapons in the car at work or at the Base Exchange,” said Mr. Henderson. “We want to control the weapons and know who is carrying them.”

# GATE

Continued from 1A

by his absence. “We always spent a lot of time together, whether it was the park, the movies or skating,” he said. My not being there has been hard on him.” To help his son deal with the separation issues, Sergeant Walton bought him a dog to help keep him occupied. “The dog is also to help teach him some responsibility,” he said. In addition to the dog, the sergeant also purchased a pre-paid cell phone for his son so they’re always only a call away. The Army veteran, who spent 10 and a half years on active duty, said he goes home as often as he can, trying to be away for no more than 12 consecutive days at a time. Army Spc. Debra Kolasienski doesn’t man the gates, but her duty is just as important. As an administrative specialist, her job is to make sure all of the soldiers’ files, travel vouchers, per diems, promotions, awards and other vital information is taken care of. The Newnan, Ga., native said when she first heard they would be mobilizing, she didn’t know what to expect.

## What to know

The 1177th Transportation Company, a U.S. Army National Guard unit from LaGrange, Ga., has been assisting Robins with base security since February 2003. Entering their second year at Robins, the unit continues to serve as a force multiplier. The mobilization is a part of an agreement between the Air Force and Army for soldiers to augment security at Air Force bases in the United States and overseas for up to two years.

“I was shocked and surprised because we didn’t know where we were going,” she said. The 20-year-old said the distance has been hard on her and her family. “My parents and I have a very close relationship so it’s really hard for me to go without seeing them for awhile,” she said. Traveling home at least once a month, she said she misses time with her friends too. “I’m dying to just come home from work and call my friends and ask them if they want to go out for dinner,” she said. “I really miss that.” Though she misses her old

friends she said she has made many new Air Force buddies. “At first they were a little hesitant having us here, but we’ve shown them that we’re decent people and everyone has been wonderful,” she said. “I’ve made tons of new friends, but I still miss my old ones.” Specialist Kolasienski, who has been in the Guard for three years, has eased into her job and feels good about the role she serves. “At first I didn’t really feel I was doing my duty because I was in the states. Now that I’m here, I realize that what we’re doing is serving our country in our own way,” she said. “At times I get e-mails from different people telling me how they appreciate the military and

what we’re doing here.” Sergeant Walton agreed. “Coming into the Middle Georgia area, we have been very welcomed by the Air Force itself and the civilian sector,” he said. “Even after a year, stores and restaurants greet us like one of the family.” “The accommodations are wonderful too,” said Specialist Kolasienski. “You can’t ask for anything better. You get money for food, hot water and a bed and a roof. It could be a lot worse.” With one year down and one to go, the men and women of the 1177th are ready for whatever comes their way. “This is my opportunity to serve my country, and I am glad to do it,” said Sergeant Walton.

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## CORRECTION

In the Jan. 30 edition of the Rev-Up, colonel select Lt. Col. Keith F. Yaktus’ name was misspelled. We regret the error.

market

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# Robins’ AAFES manager part of team that brought store to Mosul

By Mrs. Chris Zdrakas  
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

A 46-year-old civilian from Robins moved from comfort zone to war zone, enduring gunfire, heat and wild dogs to become part of a team that set up exchange services for troops in Mosul and remote sites in Iraq.

And he said he would do it all over again.

Mr. Mike Chaltry, manager of Robins’ Car Care Center, answered the call when the Army Air Force Exchange Service called for volunteers to take Post Exchange - the Army’s equivalent of the Air Force’s Base Exchange - operations to Operation Iraqi Freedom. A 29-year employee of AAFES, he signed on for six months.

Mr. Chaltry and 11 other AAFES retail managers from the U.S. and abroad, formed the first AAFES team to hit the ground in Mosul last May. Mr. Chaltry traveled from Fort Benning, Ga., to Atlanta, then to Germany, Cyprus, Kuwait and finally, Baghdad in three days. The final, most memorable part of the trip was the flight by CH-47 Chinook helicopter to Mosul. A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter escort went with the team.

### Junk food and electronics big sellers

Within three days of their arrival in Mosul, the largest city in northern Iraq, the team set up its store, stocking a military-erected tent with merchandise initially convoyed there on 20- and 40-foot container vans like those seen on 18-wheelers. The store had sales of about \$150,000 on opening day, offering items like potato chips, underwear, toiletries and electronics.

“The troops were so grateful we were there,” the father of three sons said. “They were snatching up junk food, portable DVD and CD players and CDs.”

For the first four or five days, the team “camped under the stars on a cot amidst mosquitoes, wild dogs and flies.” Four or five bottles of water over the head helped keep him cool. They later moved into six-person tents with wooden floors.

The AAFES “office” was a former duty-free operation at Mosul’s airport. Since both the living quarters and large tent that became the post exchange were next to the noisy runway, the team experienced times when they were concerned for their safety.

### Attacks came in a pattern

“The first RPG - rocket-propelled grenade - attack was scary, but after we went through one, we began to see a pattern,” he said. “The attacks seemed to be one night a week. There was one near

miss, but somebody was looking out for us. I felt like the dear Lord was with me the whole time.

“We became accustomed to hearing helicopters, C-130s and occasional C-17s overhead all day and all night,” he continued.

The sounds were still with him when he returned home, and it took a couple of days to readjust to a relatively noiseless atmosphere.

A handyman and former adult Boy Scout leader, he led the team in improving conditions at the site. They built a shower with gravity-fed water tanks overhead and an out-house equipped with a 55-gallon drum inside for sanitary purposes.

The Mosul site is a home away from home for the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell, Ky., and Mr. Chaltry said he made many friends among the troops.

### Area “dirty and backward”

He described the area as “dirty, impoverished and backward,” with trash on the sides of the road and burning on street corners. There were also vehicles “we haven’t seen on our streets in years. Taxicabs were held together by baling wire and chains.”

The locals worked at the PX for \$5 a day, and often wore the same clothes for a week at a time. Some were barefoot. Mr. Chaltry said he felt “really sorry for them.” In contrast, the team also saw “fancy palaces of gold and marble closed to common people.”

“A lot of people there speak English,” he said, “so communication wasn’t a problem. We picked up on Arabic, and they picked up on English.”

The team ate MREs - Meals Ready to Eat - and Mr. Chaltry went from weighing around 200 pounds to 186, but said the meals didn’t leave him hungry - although he said he got “a little tired of eating rice and chicken.”

### “Not home, but bearable”

The team made partitions in their six-person tent for privacy. Each had a shelf to store clothes. There was electricity, and eventually air conditioning and fans.

“It was comfortable, not home with central heat and air, but bearable,” he said. Temperatures of 120 were common in the summer, and he saw raindrops only a couple of times. They had a common tent equipped with a television set that had satellite reception so they could watch football games, CNN and programs from home.

“We also had computers the whole time we were there,” he said, “as well as a satellite phone and DSN service. When we first got there, electricity was on again, off again.



Submitted photos

Above, this was Mr. Chaltry's turf for six months. Here, he is surrounded by containers filled with supplies for the exchange. Below, Mr. Chaltry got a smile from these three Iraqi youngsters after sharing some sunflower seeds with them.



We couldn’t count on city power, but we had a lot of generator backup.”

### Taking the show on the road

Once a week, the team went on what it called “rodeos,” taking merchandise to troops in outlying areas. They hung AAFES banners that said “BX/PX ...We go where you go.” At Mosul, concessionaires opened barber, souvenir and alteration

shops after the PX operation got under way.

“Our pride and reward was being the first part of AAFES going in and providing support to the area,” he said. “As we speak, they are building a hard, ground-up facility, with food places like Burger King, a pizza franchise, Baskin-Robbins, chapel and theater. I would love to go back a year from now and see that.”

The son of a retired master sergeant, he was born into the Air Force lifestyle, and volunteered for the AAFES deployment because he “felt a need to serve the troops better.” He said the trip was hard on his wife Teresa, but she supported his decision to go.

“It was hard to leave after working with the team for six months. We had bonded, looking out for each other, toiling together in the heat and facing danger together. I would definitely like to go again.”

He passed two major milestones in Iraq - his 46th birthday Sept. 26, and being present in Mosul when the Uday and Kusay, sons of Saddam Hussein, were killed in a fire-fight. Chaltry has a photo of their cars, a Mercedes and a BMW, sitting side by side, parts removed by souvenir seekers.

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## Robins Prayer Breakfast tickets on sale Monday

By Mrs. Chris Zdrakas  
chris.zdrakas@robins.af.mil

Robins’ annual Prayer Breakfast will be held March 5 from 7 - 8:15 a.m. at the Museum of Aviation Century of Flight Hangar.

Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Charles Baldwin, deputy chief of the Air Force Chaplain Service headquartered in Washington, D.C., will speak on the theme “Can You Hear Me Now?” with references to Psalm 97:1-6, 10-12 and Mark 8:18.

Tickets, which will be \$2, will be sold at the Chapel and through unit orderly rooms, beginning Monday.

A 1969 Air Force Academy graduate, Chaplain Baldwin was an EC-121 pilot with the 552nd Airborne Early Warning and Control Wing, McClellan

Air Force Base, Calif., and a rescue helicopter pilot in Vietnam and Thailand before leaving the Air Force in 1974. In 1977, he earned a master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., serving as a Southern Baptist minister in civilian life before returning to the Air Force as a chaplain in 1979. He served in 12 Chaplaincy assignments in the Air Force before taking his present assignment.

Chaplain Baldwin earned a bachelor of science degree in 1969 from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., in 1969, and a Master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., in 1977.

The breakfast is non-denominational. All faiths are invited to participate.



‘People first’ mindset opens doors to diversity

By Master Sgt. Brian O. Baker  
78th Air Base Wing  
Military Equal Opportunity

Webster defines “diversity” as being composed of distinct or unlike elements or qualities. When we think about diversity, we usually translate it into our own frame of reference when it comes to people of different races, for example. It means so much more than that. It’s indeed a diverse world in which we live, and the ever-changing global human relations climate makes our world, as well as our workplace, more diverse than ever. For these reasons we need to maintain our focus on the target of taking care of our people.

Consider the question: What comes to mind when you hear the phrase “diversity in the workplace”? Do you think about a group of men and women working together, or an Asian-American and Native-American doing main-

tenance together on an aircraft? Do we limit our scope when we think about diversity by not considering all the possibilities that are involved?

If we can truly say we value diversity, we can assume the correct posture in the workplace. “Counseling the Culturally Different Theory and Practice” concludes, “To truly value diversity, however, means altering the power relations in organizations to minimize discrimination. Otherwise, discrimination will continue to loom as a threat to our organizational landscape.”

In the corporate world, diversity could very well be the defining factor of the success (or failure) of an organization. As such, the more diverse the organization, the more diverse the customer base is likely to be. The benefits of diversity are so far-reaching, we should avoid placing a lid on how we think about it. In essence, diversity enhances the product, service or

process. The military environment is similar to civilian corporations in terms of organizational strength when it comes to diversity. In fact, our military forces mirror the diversity of society.

As a society we were not born with a “diversity” or people mentality. In fact, many people – if not most – are very resistant to change.

Perhaps the most formidable obstacle to diversity is fear of the unknown. This fear often causes defense mechanisms to operate and feelings of being threatened to rise up within us. The only real way to combat this “enemy” is through education and awareness. Through awareness of ourselves first, we can look inward and examine where we stand with respect to diversity.

Before we can be comfortable with those who are “different” than ourselves, we must be comfortable in our own “skin.” Even our late president, John F.

Kennedy realized the need to recognize and appreciate equal opportunity and diversity in his radio and television address to the American people on Civil Rights June 11, 1963: The heart of the question is whether all Americans are to be afforded equal rights and equal opportunities, whether we are going to treat our fellow Americans as we want to be treated. If an American, because his skin is dark, cannot eat lunch in a restaurant open to the public, if he cannot send his children to the best public schools available, if he cannot vote for the public officials who will represent him, if, in short, he cannot enjoy the full and free life which all of us want, then who among us would be content to have the color of his skin changed and stand in his place?

Then we can ask ourselves these questions: Do I consider the sensitivities of others before I speak or act? Do I ensure that everyone in my organization feels valued and

empowered to contribute? Do I really see differences as strengths?

Back to the definition of diversity - a composition of distinct or unlike elements or qualities. We bring many qualities to the table of our workplace. We bring a wide range of experience and knowledge as well. How we view these qualities will ultimately determine how well we will use them. Naturally, if we fail to see or appreciate a particular quality in someone, we may be missing a most significant or potentially valuable aspect of who they are.

If we consider anything less as a supervisor, manager, or co-worker, individuals may need to take a hard look at themselves through deep introspection by looking at the person in the mirror to see for themselves the value and benefits of diversity in today’s work force.

Editor’s note: February is Black history month. Turn to Page 2B for a listing of events on base.

Abdominal circumference window to overall health

By Col. Laura Torres-Reyes  
380th Expeditionary Medical  
Group commander

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Are you frustrated with the abdominal circumference score for the new fitness standard? Have you pounded out hundreds of crunches, pumped oodles of push-ups, only to find your abdominal girth doesn’t get you past a composite score of 80?

I must admit that I was at first perplexed and amazed that the numbers and scores didn’t change based on height or age. How could that be?

The key to understanding why abdominal circumference takes a huge chunk of your fitness score is in understanding that our new fitness program is about maintaining the health of your whole body.

What really matters now to the Air Force is that you are maintaining a state of health that decreases your risk of preventable diseases. Research has shown conclusively that abdominal size reflects this concept of whole health.

Besides the obvious risk factor of smoking tobacco, your amount of abdominal

“Take heart! You don’t have to look for a liposuction specialist or invest in expensive gadgets advertised on TV to make an improvement. The only proven way to decrease your abdominal circumference is to decrease your body fat.”

fat is a good predictor of your risk for heart disease, diabetes, stroke and some types of cancer. Isn’t that amazing?

You don’t need a palm reader or crystal ball. By just

taking a simple tape measurement, you can get a pretty good idea of your chances for enjoying a long, healthy life.

Of course, the hard part is deciding what to do if your

abs just aren’t measuring up.

Take heart! You don’t have to look for a liposuction specialist or invest in expensive gadgets advertised on TV to make an improvement. The only proven way to decrease your abdominal circumference is to decrease your body fat.

The fact is we all have those enviable six-packs of muscle hidden under our abdominal fat. As you lose the fat, the muscle definition becomes clear. If you increase your aerobic capacity and strengthen your shoulders and core muscle groups, your total body fat

will decrease and your abdomen will firm up.


It is really a pretty good package deal; as you improve your scores for the 1.5 mile run, push-ups, and sit-ups, you should see your abdominal girth decrease. Of course, you will also have to burn more calories than you eat, actually exercise aerobically by maintaining your training heart rate between 60 and 75 percent, and build more muscle to boost your metabolism.

OK, so I never said it would be easy, but don’t you feel better just knowing it makes sense?

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes.

To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the




**Commander’s Action Line**

**Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam**  
Commander,  
Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

**Col. Tom Smoot**  
Commander,  
78th Air Base Wing

following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins Commanders Action



Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage at https://www.mil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can provide a direct response. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.

Security Forces.....	327-3445
Services Division.....	926-5491
EEO Office.....	926-2131
Employee Relations.....	926-5802
Military Pay.....	926-3777
IDEA.....	926-2536
Base hospital.....	327-7850
Civil engineering.....	926-5657
Public Affairs.....	926-2137
Safety Office.....	926-6271
Fraud, Waste and Abuse hotline.....	926-2393
Housing Office.....	926-3776

Base Restaurant is freezing

On Jan. 20, my friends and I went to the Base Restaurant to eat lunch. The minute we walked into the building we could feel cold air in the room around to the food lines. We sat down near the widescreen TV and cold air was blowing on us there as well. It was very uncomfortable to say the least. Food cooled very quickly and everyone ate with their coats on and went outside to get warm after they were finished. The following day, some of those same friends went to the restaurant and reported it was just as cold that day as the day before. They chose not to eat in those conditions again. Is there a reason there was no heat in the Base Restaurant? Will there be heat in the restaurant in the future or was this heat problem caused by ongoing renovations?

**Colonel Smoot replies:** I do apologize for the uncomfortable conditions you experienced last week while dining at the Base Restaurant. The lack of heat was caused by contractors who inadvertently cut a wire that feeds the steam pumps that warm the building. This happened while cutting the floor to remove old sewer pipes. Repairs were made the same day; however, controllers for the heat system were damaged. Base Civil Engineering worked diligently to diagnose the situation and corrected the problem on Jan. 22. I truly regret that you and your guests experienced an uncomfortable dining experience. We are working closely with the contractor to ensure this does not happen again. Thank you for your comments and concerns and we look forward to

having you dine with us again.

Is there a standard form for Family Medical Leave?

Is there a standardized form for applying for Family Medical Leave Act? I was told there wasn't; we had to submit it on letterhead. Other companies provide forms for employees to give to their doctor to fill out, which is a much simpler process.

**General Wetekam replies:** Thank you for asking about available forms to use when requesting Family and Medical Leave Act. The Office of Personnel Management Web site, www.opm.gov, has electronic forms which are available for your use in requesting FMLA and in obtaining medical documentation to support your request for FMLA. One such form is OPM Form 71, Request for Leave or Approved Absence, which can be used to request FMLA. Block 5 of OPM Form 71 is reserved specifically for requesting FMLA. You can access OPM Form 71 at www.opm.gov/forms/pdf\_fill/opm71.pdf.

The OPM Web site has also published U.S. Department of Labor Form WH-380, which is optional for use in obtaining medical documentation to support your request for FMLA. DOL Form WH-380 can be accessed at www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/whd/fmla/wh380.pdf.

You may use any one of the above-mentioned forms for

requesting FMLA. Requests for FMLA may also be submitted on letterhead with appropriate supporting medical documentation.


For additional information concerning FMLA, please contact your servicing Employee Relations Specialist at 926-5802 or 926-0677.

Can racquetball court reservation policy be revisited?

I understand that the base Fitness Center now makes reservations for the racquetball court in half hour blocks. If two people of roughly equal abilities play racquetball it may take between 15 and 20 minutes to play one game. With a 30 minute limit, players will be limited to one or two games with no rest period (usually 2-3 minutes) between games. Can this policy be re-visited?

**Colonel Smooth replies:** Thank you for allowing me to clarify the reservation system at the Fitness Center. The center has identified all possible areas in and around the facility to accommodate mandatory unit physical training, which the racquetball courts suit the needs of some smaller organizations. To maximize usage, scheduling of those areas has been broken down into 30-minute increments.

However, you are fully permitted to reserve the racquetball court for the entire hour. Please contact Lesley Lee at 926-2129 for additional information.



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Contributing writer.....**Ms. Lisa Mathews**

# Innovative environmental cleanup initiated by EM

From staff reports

During the next several weeks, environmental cleanup work will begin in an area of Robins known as the Horse Pasture site.

This site is a non-industrial area in the southeastern part of the base, near the small arms range and the horse pasture.

Historical activity at portions of the site, located primarily within the base boundaries, resulted in soil and groundwater contamination that requires cleanup to meet Georgia Environmental Protection Division standards for protecting the environment.

Previous investigations have shown that the current risk to the animals and humans is insignificant because the contamination at the site is located in the soils and groundwater beneath the surface.

The work will be completed using an innovative contracting mechanism designed to save the government millions of dollars and clean up the site faster. The soil excavation and stabilization will be conducted

during the first two years.

Groundwater cleanup, which requires more complex, long-term treatment processes, is scheduled to be completed by 2009.

Environmental Management, which has been recognized by the Air Force and Georgia Environmental Protection Division for program excellence, initiated the innovative approach for this site. In September, the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence awarded an \$8.65 million contract to BEM Systems, Inc. of Chatham, N.J., and

its local partner, Tetra Tech, to implement the cleanup.

The effort is unique because it's the first environmental remediation project awarded by Air Force Materiel Command and Robins as a performance based contract. The project will use the latest technologies and methods to reduce the cleanup schedule.

Under the contract, the time for cleanup of contamination will be compressed to six years - compared to a typical cleanup approach that can take from 10 to 30 years. The

result is a savings in cleanup costs by the Air Force of several million dollars.

The cleanup effort will be implemented with a minimal amount of disruption to the Robins Riding Club and nearby base housing. Coordination will be done during the project to make sure people using the horse stables and living in base housing are aware of the activity.

Fred Otto in Environmental Management, 926-1197 extension 146, can be contacted for more information regarding the project.

## \$1,500 scholarship for military children deadline approaching

**By Ms. Holly J. Logan**  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

Some military children will pay a reduced college tuition bill this year through the Defense Commissary Agency's Military Children Scholarship Program.

DECA's scholarship program has awarded nearly 1,500 scholarships and nearly \$2 million since its first awards in 2001.

Mr. Bob Bemis, Air Force Reserve Command services director, said the program has helped lower the cost that his daughter, Karen, a 19-year-old freshman at Yale University, will have to pay back.

"The cost of Yale is overwhelming," he said. "Part of the cost is the responsibility of the parent. Some of it is the student's responsibility. This will help reduce Karen's student loan."

The retired senior master sergeant said while the \$1,500 scholarship doesn't seem like much compared to the school's \$38,000 yearly tuition expense, it helps his family shoulder the cost.

"It's a way to reward students for high-performance in high school academics and extra curricular activities," he said. "Anything to help defer the cost helps her and our family."

At least one scholarship of \$1,500 or more, depending how many donations are made to the scholarship fund, will be awarded to qualified applicants at every commissary location.

Applicants are required to write an essay - This year's topic is "What aspect of military life has had the greatest influence on you?"

Ms. Edna Hoogewind, program liaison for DECA, said the essay is more important than some may think.

"In past years, the essay has

been a key factor in deciding among the many outstanding applicants," she said. "So, students should put on their thinking caps and give it their best shot."

*Editor's Note: Ms. Carrie Williams, with the Defense Commissary Agency, contributed to this article.*

### What to know

Application deadline is Feb. 18, by close of business. For applications, stop by the Commissary or visit [www.militaryscholar.org](http://www.militaryscholar.org).

### Who's eligible

Active-duty, Guardsmen, Reserve, and retired military members' children who are under 23 and unmarried may qualify for the program. Students must plan to attend an accredited college or university full-time in the fall or enroll in a study program designed to transfer into a four-year degree program.

studio  
59375101

warner  
59374401

century21  
59377701

retail  
59379001

fickling  
59378001



# A little fine tuning



U.S. Air Force photos by Ms. Sue Sapp

## Antenna shop technicians make waves

By Mr. Roland Leach  
roland.leach@robins.af.mil

Onboard radar systems are the eyes and ears for aircrews conducting flying missions. These sophisticated components - a vital part of the navigation system - give aircrews a clear picture of the route ahead.

Fourteen technicians at Robins perform the important task of maintaining them. Their job is to make sure the radar system, located behind the aircraft nose cone, is calibrated to peak operating standards. The radar and nose cone combination forms what is called a radome.

“Our main function is to test the different radomes and antennas that go behind them for the various aircraft systems,” said



Mr. Dunn



Top, Mr. George Long, electronic mechanic, tunes and levels an antenna. Above, Mr. Brian Kirchhefer, electronic worker trainee, prepares to mount a Combat Talon II radome for testing in the anechoic chamber also known as RAVS range (Radome Verification System).

Mr. John Dunn, antenna and radar range integrated system foreman. “Our mission is to produce usable antennas and radomes in a timely fashion with no quality defects.”

And they do that mission at a special testing facility which acts as a functional test site for radar

systems used on a variety of aircraft.

A separate shop produces nose cones for C-130s, C-141s, F-15s and other aircraft. The radome assembly goes through a calibration routine at a special range called the radar alignment facility

near the southwest end of the base.

The facility is more than 50 years old and includes 45-foot towers spread out over the length of a football field used to bounce signals between radar dishes to calibrate the radome assemblies.

The technicians use computer systems - archaic by today’s standards - to compile test data for each radar dish tested on the outdoor range.

“This may be old equipment, but the technology at the time was well thought out,” said Mr. Jeff Rhodes, electronic technician. “Although there are times when I wish we had updated equipment, this works.”

The technicians all possess the skills to fine tune any radome brought to the range.

“We know this is very important work,” said Mr. George Long, electronic technician. “We are proud when the guys going over drop the bomb where they want to drop it. We are proud that it doesn’t scatter four or five blocks away.”

## Treat that’s good for your heart

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

If you’re seeking a better way to make Valentine’s Day sweet, the traditional box of chocolates may be a heart-healthy treat.

Chocolate - particularly dark chocolate - contains antioxidants and specific flavonoids proven to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, according to a recent American Dietetic Association report.



Ms. Kurtz

Although some may feel guilty at the mere thought of its rich taste, Ms. Lindy Kurtz, Health and Wellness Center dietician, said eating chocolate is OK - as long as it’s done in moderation.

“Celebrate by eating chocolate on Valentine’s Day, but do it within reason,” she said. “A serving size of six Dove Chocolates comes to about 230 calories. The pieces are a pretty good size, so you get your craving met.”

While chocolate has its benefits, Ms. Kurtz said she recommends people avoid the cream -filled kind that packs a high caloric count.

“There are all kinds of non-food ways to celebrate Valentine’s Day,” she said. “You could do something nice for someone or give them something that has a special meaning. Valentine candy is only a small way to celebrate.”

### Chocolate fondue

6 ounces semisweet chocolate, chopped  
1/3 cup heavy cream  
2 tablespoons Grand Marnier, brandy or rum (optional)  
assorted fruit or marshmallows  
Gently melt chocolate over hot water in a double boiler or heat in microwave on medium power for two to four minutes. Blend until smooth. Whisk in cream. Stir in liqueur, if desired. Transfer to serving dish or fondue pot. Serve warm with fresh fruit.

— from Ladies Home Journal

# Grant helps military members spay, neuter their pets

### What to know

Houston County Animal Rescue and Kindness, a non-profit organization dedicated to aiding the adoption of homeless animals, in conjunction with the Humane Society Association of Georgia (HAGA), is helping military members spay and neuter their pets through a \$3,000 grant provided through HAGA. For more information, contact Houston County ARK President Susan Wynn at 328-0004.

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

A \$3,000 grant-based program supported by 11 Georgia agencies and associations is helping military members fix the state’s rising animal population control problem.

Between 4 and 5 million cats and dogs are euthanized yearly nationwide, according to recent statistics from the Humane Society of the United States. But Ms. Susan Wynn, Houston County Animal Rescue and Kindness president, said spaying and neutering pets can lower that number.

“One of the biggest reasons people dump their animals is that they don’t understand

the responsibility of pet ownership,” she said.

While the animal population continues to grow, Ms. Wynn said the state has a program designed to minimize the problem.

The program’s funds were generated through revenue from the Georgia Spay and Neuter License Plate sales and a grant through the Humane Society of Georgia.

The grant money was requested in March of 2002 and was recently released to the state to help military members meet the cost of pet sterilization.

“This is just one way we can say thank you to our military members for all they do,” Ms. Wynn said.

### Eligibility rules for grant money use

1. Veterinarians must be licensed by the Georgia State Board of Veterinary Medicine and accredited by the Georgia Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture.

2. The veterinarian must request financial assistance in writing, by fax or e-mail from the Georgia Department of Agriculture prior to performing a procedure. If funds were available, the veterinarian would receive approval from the department to perform the procedure.

3. The veterinarian must perform all procedures with acceptable standards of care.

4. Both animal and owner must reside in Georgia to receive assistance through the Dog and Cat Sterilization Program.



Submitted photo

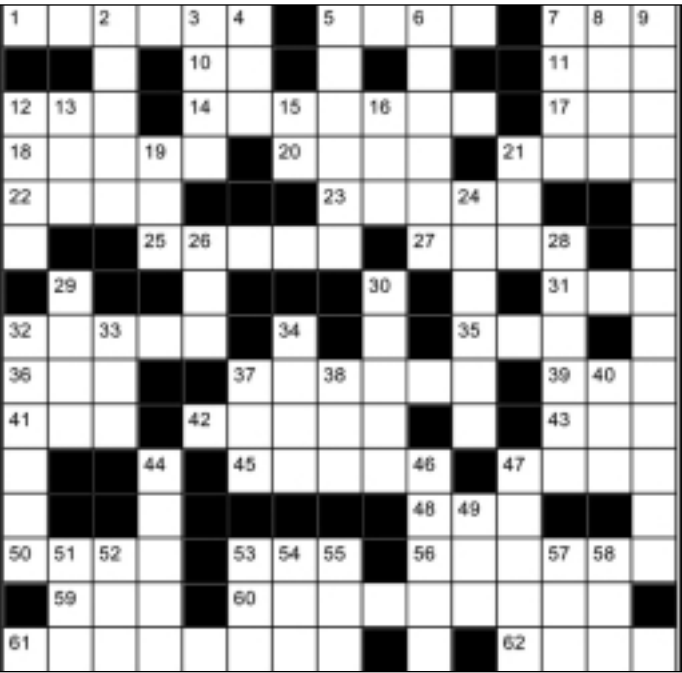
Kittens and puppies, like the one above, as young as eight weeks can be sterilized. Military members are eligible for monetary assistance in order to spay or neuter their pets.



Black History Month events

For more information, go to [www.robins.af.mil/blackhistory](http://www.robins.af.mil/blackhistory).  
**Health Fair, Tuesday**  
Learn about causes and prevention of silent killers in the African-American community at the Health Fair from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Occupational Medicine Services, Building 207. The Health Fair will feature seminars and other informative services such as blood pressure screening and nutrition guidance. For more information, call Ms. Lula Harris at 327-7590.  
**Luncheon, Feb. 13**  
The luncheon will be at the Enlisted Club at 11:30 a.m. The theme is "Brown v. Board of Education," and the guest speaker will be retired Gen. Joseph McNeil.  
**Dinner theater, Feb. 20**  
With their dramatic spoken word performances and inspiring music, the contemporary jazz/R&B quintet, Five Men on a Stool, will perform at the Enlisted Club. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m.; dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Black History Month

By 1st Lt. Tony Wickman  
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

- ACROSS
1. First African-American U.S. Surgeon General

5. Competition

7. Mon.

10. Article 86-UCMJ topic (abbrev.)

11. \_\_\_\_ Paulo, Brazil

12. African-American prize fighter considered to be "The Greatest"

14. First African-American astronaut in space

17. Center

18. Roots African-American author

20. Balkans person

21. Soccer star

22. Capital of Norway

23. Construct

25. Halts

27. Authentic

31. CIA precursor

32. African-American inventor of Synchronous Multiplex Railway Telegraph

35. Debt

36. Sick

37. African-American civil rights activist, NAACP founding member

39. Actress Lupino

41. 60-70s African-American film, theater star Carl

42. Mustang, Explorer, Escort...

43. Title for a knight

45. Famous African-American woman who traveled to speak against slavery

47. Char

48. DoD 5-digit code used to uniquely identify a "typeunit"

50. Spaghetti sauce maker

53. Greek letter

56. Greek island

59. Military phone lines (abbrev.)

60. Youngest, first African-American nominated for Oscar Best Director

61. African-American abolitionist, author, orator

62. Dick Tracy's lady
- DOWN
3. Precious stone

4. Actor Mineo

5. Firearms

6. African-American innovator in agriculture

7. First African-American to win Wimbledon

8. \_\_\_\_ Cuffe; 1800s African-American civil rights champion

9. First African-American woman to serve in presidential cabinet

12. Ship to shore call

13. \_\_\_\_ Vegas

15. America, briefly

16. Paddle

19. Greek goddess of dawn

21. School grp.

24. Vivid purplish-red

26. \_\_\_\_ the season to be jolly

28. Rosa \_\_\_\_ Parks; African-American called "Mother of Civil Rights"

29. Staff

30. The Road Not Taken poet

32. Little House on the Prairie writer

33. Bullfight cheer

34. Vice President dueler

37. Fleck

38. Military work clothes (abbrev.)

40. Military org. concerned with foreign military intel

44. First African-American ambassador to the United Nations

46. Tosses

47. African-American slave who waged freedom legal battle

49. Article

51. Commotion

52. Military unit not attached to a MOB (abbrev.)

53. Civil war opponent to the Union (abbrev.)

54. Towel marker?

55. Former org. concerned with immigrations

57. Female deer

58. Navy 0-1 (abbrev.)

For puzzle solution, see Feb. 13 edition of the Rev-Up

Puzzle solution for Jan. 30



Retired general to discuss court case anniversary

Joseph McNeil along with three other freshmen students – David Richmond, Franklin McCain, and Jibril Kazan – started what became known as “the student sit-in movement” Feb. 1, 1960, in Greensboro, N.C.  
The four North Carolina A&T University students began “sitting-in” at a F.W.

Woolworth’s lunch counter and refused to leave until they were served. This simple act became the catalyst for a major social movement and challenged racial segregation throughout the South. It became the cornerstone for following major civil rights legislation.  
General McNeil, who

retired from the Air Force Reserve in February 2000 and the Senior Executive Service of the Federal Aviation Administration in May 2002, will be the keynote speaker at the Black Heritage Observance Committee Luncheon Feb. 13 at 11:30 a.m. at the NCO Club. Tickets are \$10. He will speak about the 50th anniversary of

Brown v. Board of Education.  
For more information, contact Ms. Cheryl Ficklin at 926-5292.  
– From staff reports



General McNeil

Museum Of Aviation Foundation starts ‘Jazz at Six’ series

The Museum of Aviation Foundation plans to warm up the cool months of February, March and April with a new “Jazz at Six” series under the wings at the Museum of Aviation.  
**Feb. 19: Afro Jazztet**  
This group features Mr. Wilfred Stroud

on piano, Mr. Morris Seltzer on tenor sax, Mr. Clifton Hadley on alto sax, Mr. Jimmy Mills on trumpet, Mr. Jerry Habersham on bass and Mr. Steve Chanin or Mr. Willie Bowden on drums.  
**March 16: Gwen Hughes**  
Ms. Gwen Hughes has been called

“The Ambassador of Jazz” because of her versatility and mass appeal. This songwriter, singer and piano stylist describes herself as someone “caught somewhere between jazz, pop and big band.” She has performed in Atlanta, New Orleans, New York City and Seaside, Fla.

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

**Family Support Center sponsored classes, workshops, and seminars are open to all Team Robins personnel and their eligible family members. The FSC is located on Ninth Street in Building 794. For additional information, or to make a reservation, call 926-1256.**

TAP workshop

The next three-day Department of Labor sponsored Transition Assistance Program Workshop is Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. each day, Smith Community Center Ballroom. Personnel leaving the military

within the next six months need to sign up as soon as possible. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Federal resume writing class

The Center’s Transition Assistance Program will conduct a Federal Resume Writing class on Thursday, 1:30 - 4 p.m., Building 945. Advanced registration is required.

Center closed

The FSC and Family Services loan closet and Airman’s Attic will be closed

Feb. 16, in observance of President’s Day. Normal services will resume Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.

Back to school

A “Back to School” College Basics workshop will be conducted Feb. 17, 1:30 - 3 p.m., Building 945, FSC Annex. Many people leaving active duty choose to start, return to or continue their education after military service. Information covered includes the application process; factors to consider when selecting a school, GI bill information, researching scholarships and much more.

SERVICES BRIEFS

Civilian Recreation

**922-4415**  
A Valentine’s bingo will be held Feb.13 at the Base Restaurant. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games start at 6 p.m. Door prizes, special games and three jackpots will be awarded. For more information, call Ms. Lynne Brackett at 922-4415.  
Teams are invited to play Win, Lose or Draw for a chance to win four tickets to Stone Mountain during the Civilian Recreation team challenge Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. at the Smith Community Center. Two teams consisting of four players will test their talents at drawing and guessing. The winning team will continue until defeated or undefeated. Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis with a 10-team limit. Call 922-4415 for more information.  
**Enlisted Club 926-4515**  
A Valentine’s spectacular will be held Feb. 14 starting at 9 p.m. Couples may enter the best dressed and cupid contests for prizes of \$100 and dance to the sounds of DJ Silk.

A Sunday brunch will be held Feb. 15 from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the ballroom. Brunch is free for primary members and for their children ages 5 and younger. Cost is \$5.95 for members’ children, ages 6 - 12, \$8.95 for guests and children 13 and older, and \$11.95 for nonmembers.

Information, Tickets and Travel 926-2945/0093

Explore and expand your horizons during ITT’s Travel Show March 10 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. in the Smith Community Center ballroom, Building 767. Representatives from Walt Disney World, Universal Studios, Alpine Helen, Jekyll Island, Sea World, Busch Gardens, Lookout Mountain Hang Gliding, Andersonville Trail Association and more will share information. For more information call ITT.  
Getaway to Las Vegas May 17 - 20. Price per person, single is \$704, double \$580.50, triple \$545.35 and quad \$535.75. A \$100 nonrefundable deposit is due at time of reservation. Balance due by March 12. For more information, call ITT at 926-2945.

Officers’ Club 926-2670

A members’ Valentine’s Day dinner and dance will be held Feb. 14. Enjoy a dinner buffet at 6 p.m. and dance to the sounds of Bob Cummings and the Reflections at 8 p.m.

Skills Development Center 926-5282

Clip the customer appreciation days coupon in February Edge magazine to receive a free regular mat with a custom frame order.  
Art demonstrations will be conducted at the Base Library Feb. 18 from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Ms. Leslie Hoops-Wallace and Mr. Allan Carey will be painting and answering questions about skills center classes.

Youth Center 926-2110

Youth Center members are encouraged to clip the AAFES coupon on the back cover of the February Edge magazine for a 15 percent discount on a combo meal at Robin Hood.

STREAMING VIDEO



ROBINS REPORT

News from around the base –Watson and Cox Channel 15  
**Friday** – 8 p.m.  
**Sunday** – 1:30 p.m.  
**Monday** – noon

CHAPEL SERVICES

**Catholic Masses** are celebrated at the chapel each Saturday at 5:30 p.m., Sunday at 9:30 a.m., and on Holy Days of Obligation at noon and 5 p.m. and Monday through Friday at noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is on Saturday from 4:30-5:15 p.m.  
**Protestant General Services** take place every Sunday at 11 a.m. This service

includes some traditional and contemporary worship styles in music and in format.  
**Protestant Inspirational Services** take place every Sunday at 8 a.m.  
**Protestant Contemporary Services** take place 11 a.m. each Sunday at the Base Theater. This service is very informal, with a praise team assisting in singing and includes both traditional and contemporary

styles of music and worship.  
**Jewish service time** is each Friday at 6:15 p.m. at the Macon synagogue.  
**Islamic Friday Prayer** (Jumuah) is Fridays at 2 p.m. in the chapel annex Rooms 1 and 2.  
The chapel helps with spiritual needs that arise. For further information, call the chapel at 926-2821.

MOVIE SCHEDULE

**Friday**  
**7:30 p.m. – Cheaper by the Dozen** – **Steve Martin and Bonnie Hunt**  
When Tom Baker gets a job offer to coach football at Northwestern University in Chicago, he and his wife, Mary, move to the big city, which is a big change for their family. With the recent publication of her long-in-the-works book, Mary feels demands outside the home taking away as much time as Tom’s new job does, so the two are forced to try to find new ways of parenting their massive tribe, but they find their parenting styles aren’t always completely compatible.  
Rated PG (for language and some thematic elements) 99 minutes



**Saturday**  
**7:30 p.m. – Peter Pan** – **Jason Isaacs and Jeremy Sumpter**  
Peter Pan is the boy who won’t age, who lives in Neverland with other ageless kids. Tinkerbell, a fairy, gives three children the ability to fly; and they’re off to Neverland, where they’re soon in battle with the evil Captain Hook and his band of pirates.  
Rated PG (for adventure action sequences and peril) 113 minutes





# Legal Office outlines election rules for civilians, military

By Ms. Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

With the political year in full-swing, Mr. Mike Shutter said it’s important to remind Robins’ civilians and military members that “politics and the workplace don’t mix.”

Mr. Shutter, Civil Law Directorate chief in the Center Legal Office, said people are free to exhibit their political expressions, but not on the government’s clock.

“They’re certainly free to express their beliefs on who they think is the best candidate

## What to know

For more information on political guidelines in federal buildings and on military installations, visit <http://osc.gov/hatchact.html> or Robins’ Legal Assistance Office in Building 215.

- but they need to do it off base,” he said. “We want to keep politics out of the workplace, particularly out of the workplace on military installations. As a military installation, you don’t want to be identified

with one party or the other.”

The Hatch Act, legislation that outlines political activity guidelines for civilian employees and military members to follow in federal buildings and military installations, is enforced by the Office of Special Counsel in Washington, D.C.

Civilians in violation of the Hatch Act guidelines may face penalties from a 30-day work suspension without pay to removal.

Military members could face even greater disciplinary action.

<b>Off base, civilian and military members may:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Be public office candidates in nonpartisan elections</li><li>■ Register and vote</li><li>■ Assist in voter registration</li><li>■ Express opinions about candidates and issues</li><li>■ Contribute money to political organizations</li><li>■ Attend political fundraising functions and be active at political rallies and meetings</li><li>■ Be an active political party or club member</li><li>■ Sign nominating petitions and campaign for or against partisan election candidates, referendum questions, municipal ordinances and constitutional amendments</li><li>■ Make campaign speeches for partisan election candidates or distribute related campaign literature</li><li>■ Hold office in political clubs or parties</li><li>■ Display small bumper stickers on personally owned vehicles</li></ul>	<b>Air Force members may:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Register to vote and express an opinion on candidates and issues, but not as an Armed Forces representative</li><li>■ Attend political meetings or rallies out of uniform</li><li>■ Join a political club and attend meetings, but not in uniform</li><li>■ Display bumper stickers on a personally owned vehicle</li></ul>
	<b>Civilian employees may not:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Use their official authority to interfere with an election</li><li>■ Collect political contributions, unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor or employee organization and the solicited member is not a subordinate employee</li><li>■ Knowingly solicit or discourage political activity of any person who has business with the agency</li><li>■ Engage in any political activity in any government office, while wearing an official uniform or using a government vehicle</li><li>■ Solicit political contributions from the general public</li><li>■ Be a candidate for public office in a partisan election</li><li>■ Wear political buttons on duty or place large political signs, banners or posters on private vehicles while on base</li></ul>
	<b>Air Force members may not:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Participate in partisan political management campaigns or conventions</li><li>■ Speak before a partisan political gathering</li><li>■ March or ride in partisan political parades or participate in any organized effort to transport voters to the polls, if the effort is associated with a partisan party or candidate</li><li>■ Make campaign contributions to partisan political candidates</li><li>■ Display large political poster, banner or sign on personally owned vehicles on or off base</li></ul>

# FAST Program Office gets DoD nod

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The flexible acquisition and sustainment tool, or FAST, Program Office here was recently recognized by the Department of Defense with the Defense Acquisition Executive Certificate of Achievement.

The certificates, which were presented to each team member by Maj. Gen. Don Wetekam, Center commander, Jan. 30, are awarded to highlight and reward exceptional contributions to improving lifecycle cost and the acquisition system through innovative acquisition management techniques.

FAST was designed to quickly meet critical war fighters’ needs, reduce contract administrative lead-time and cost, strengthen small business partnerships, and increase award dollars to small business.

It is a seven-year, \$7.4 billion contract, awarded in 2001.

A letter accompanying the certificates from Mr. Marvin Sambur, assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisition, stated “by putting an unprecedented quick response sustainment contracting vehicle in the hands of each air logistics center, the FAST team truly exemplifies innovation and agility in acquisition.”

“The achievements of FAST have been just astounding,” said Mr. Winfield Greene, FAST program director during the award period.

## Team members

Mr. Steve Esmond, Mr. Franklin Kee, Ms. Angela Gorman, Mr. Gene Vanderpool , Mr. K.C. Jones, Mr. Tyrone Walker, Ms. Catherine Belflower, Mr. Al Thompson, Ms. Patrica Peck, Mr. Winfield Greene, Ms. Mickie Cranford, Ms. Sharon Broughton, Ms. Lisa Corr, Ms. Joy Lloyd, Ms. Andrea Prichard, Ms. Laura Hill, Capt. Mark Finigan and 1st Lt. Karen Jack

“To be recognized at the very high level of the Department of Defense is a great accomplishment.”

Mr. Greene said the award is a positive reinforcement for the hard work the team has done.

“It shows that FAST is not only a benefit to the Air Force, but a benefit to the entire DoD,” he said.

General Wetekam told the group he’s proud of their hard work and dedication to the Air Force.

“We’ve had a lot of positive recognition for this team and for good reason,” he said. “It’s an impressive and innovative approach that we’ve taken here. It has given a lot of positive notoriety for our Center, but more importantly it has done a lot of good things for our Air Force.”

In addition to the certificates of achievement, the team also received commander’s coins and a copy of the letter from Mr. Sambur.

# C-130 SPO wins 2nd Schriever Award

By Ms. Lanorris Askew  
lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil

The continuous quest for excellence has paid off in spades for those in the C-130 System Program Office here.

Winners of the Gen. Bernard A. Schriever Award for outstanding product management in fiscal 2003, the SPO’s contributions toward the implementation of customer focused Integrated Weapon Systems Management is now known around the Air Force Materiel Command.

Col. Greg Potsulka, SPO director, attributes the win to teamwork.

“We won because of our people,” he said. “We won because of their positive attitudes, their deep understanding of their jobs and how it relates to our mission and the drive to meet the needs of C-130 Hercules operators.”

The colonel said they were

## What to know

The mission of the C-130 SPO is to acquire and sustain superior and affordable C-130 systems that contribute to operational readiness in partnership with its customers. The C-130 SPO also won the Schriever Award in 2000.

one of six finalists from three product centers and three air logistics centers.

“This award is very significant,” he said. “It’s the command’s most prestigious SPO team award and identifies the C-130 SPO as the most outstanding product directorate in the Designated Acquisition Commander category. It’s a very empowering feeling.”

A long list of achievements contributed to the winning of this award including working through challenges such as an aging worldwide fleet.

The team is credited with

meeting the call for duty by sustaining an 88 percent mission capable rate during Operation Iraqi Freedom in the face of increased multinational operations tempo and increased and unpredictable maintenance and supply system demands.

Gen. Greg Martin, AFMC commander, presented Colonel Postulka the award Oct. 29 at the Single Manager’s Conference at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.

“I was proud to accept the award on behalf of the hard-working folks in the C-130 SPO and to carry back his thanks and appreciation,” the director said. “It validates a year of hard work and results. It provides enormous recognition to the dedication of the Center Air Force civilians, support contractors, officers and NCOs who work quietly and professionally to do what it takes to keep Hercs flying now and for the future.”

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# Go ‘red’ Wednesday for heart month

By Ms. Dairlyn Brown  
Registered Nurse  
Health and Wellness Center

In support of American Heart month, employees across the nation are wearing something red Wednesday to help increase awareness of heart disease - the No. 1 killer of Americans.

As part of the American Heart Association’s national campaign, Wear Red Day, employees are encouraged to wear red signifying their fight against heart disease and to help raise awareness, while encouraging people to take charge of their health.

Each year, about 700,000 people experience a stroke or coronary attack. About 500,000 strokes are first attacks, and 200,000 are recurrent. Stroke accounted for more than one of every 15 deaths in the country in 2001. Of coronary attacks, about 500,000 will be recurrent. About 42 percent of the people who experience a coronary attack in a given year will die from it.

## What to know

Heart disease is America’s No. 1 killer; stroke is No. 3. Cardiovascular disease claims more lives than all other major causes of death. Cardiovascular diseases include high blood pressure, coronary heart disease (heart attack and angina), congestive heart failure, stroke and congenital heart defects. Coronary heart disease alone is the single largest killer of Americans. The disease accounts for one in five women’s deaths.

So how do you prevent a heart attack or stroke? With lifestyle changes such as eating a healthy diet, exercising regularly, quitting smoking and decreasing or controlling stress.

Wearing red is not going to prevent a heart attack or stroke, but it will bring about awareness and symbolize your fight against heart disease.

For more information contact the Health and Wellness Center at 327-8480.

## Dust buster



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Nichole Adamowicz  
Staff Sgt. Jason Morris cleans out the inside of a printer with canned air at a deployed location Jan. 23. Sergeant Morris is a computer systems operator with the 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron at a deployed location and works in the small computers repair and technical support shop. He is from the 5th Combat Communications Group here.



Please recycle this newspaper.

# Give a smoker a helping hand with a smoke-free valentine

This year, the North Central Health District’s Tobacco Use Prevention Section is giving residents the opportunity to help their loved ones quit smoking by giving away Smoke-Free Valentines.

“We felt this would be a fun way to reach our community smokers who may be thinking of kicking the habit,” said Ms. Jennifer Stanley, Tobacco Use Prevention coordinator, North Central Health District. “Sometimes hearing something from a loved one or friend can make all the difference.”

Once a person is registered, they will receive a Smoke-Free Valentine Card during the week of Feb. 14. Each card will convey a positive message about quitting smoking along

## What to know

If you want to send your special someone a Smoke-Free Valentine, stop by the Health and Wellness Center, Building 827. You can also contact the local Tobacco Use Prevention Section at 751-4571 or send an e-mail to [jastanley@gdph.state.ga.us](mailto:jastanley@gdph.state.ga.us).

with information about the Georgia Tobacco Quit Line.

The Quit Line counselors provide counseling, screening and referral services and can be reached at 1 (877) 270-7867.

For additional information, visit us at [www.ph.dhr.state.ga.us](http://www.ph.dhr.state.ga.us).

– Submitted

Check out the Robins Rev-Up online at:  
[www.robins.af.mil/pa/revup-online/index.htm](http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/revup-online/index.htm)

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# MA employee receives recreation volunteer award

By Ms. Lisa Mathews  
lisa.mathews@robins.af.mil

An employee in the Software Engineering Division of the Maintenance Directorate was recently awarded the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association Volunteer of the Year Award for the sixth district.

For the past 23 years, Mr. Willie Hill has been active as a volunteer with the Warner Robins Recreation Department and as a volunteer for athletic programs sponsored by his church.

Mr. Hill is a soft-spoken



Mr. Hill

man. Despite that, the power of his personality has been felt by and has benefited many young people in the local community.

“When I was a kid growing up, athletics was always a very integral part of my life. I was always very close to the coaches that I had at that particular time in my life,” he said. “I decided that if there was any way I could give something back, I would. I have always thought the Lord blessed me to be able to deal with, and have the patience to understand children.”

Mr. Hill’s involvement with the recreation department began when his own children were young athletes. He coached his son, who began in the 5- to 6-year-old Mini Mite league. He also coached his daughter during her years of

play in the recreation department.

“As they got out of the recreation department, I just continued to work in it,” Mr. Hill said. “At one time I coached football, basketball and baseball without a break.”

His volunteering has allowed him the opportunity to work with and inspire young athletes.

He was instrumental in the formation of the Warner Robins Express Basketball Club - an Amateur Athletic Union team. Because of that he has cut back on coaching some sports. He now coaches basketball in the Midget League as well as his church’s women’s softball recreation team.

The depth of Mr. Hill’s commitment to volunteering is easy to detect when he speaks

of the joys and sorrows he has experienced through the years.

“I always maintain a relationship with my kids,” he said. “I don’t always have success stories; I lose some. But, for the most part, the experiences have been real good, in that we maintain contact. When they’re in town, a lot of them will come back and look me up.”

Smiling, Mr. Hill related how one of the other coaches in his league at the recreation department was actually among the young boys on the first team he coached at the department years ago.

“The hardest thing for me has been to resist the temptation to give it up when things aren’t going well,” he said. “God always shows me that what I’m doing is worthwhile.”

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## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Bowling Center

A sweetheart bowling special will be Feb. 14. Bowlers pay regular price and half price for their sweetheart.

### Fitness Center

The 2004 Winter Sports Day is today. Events include swimming, table tennis, racquetball, walleyball, obstacle course,

three-on-three basketball and a push, pull and dip competition.

A Valentine’s Day 5K run is scheduled for Feb. 13 at 11 a.m. in front of the Health and Wellness Center.

### Outdoor Recreation

There will be a paintball elimination tournament Feb. 21 at On Target

Paintball, 689 Riggins Mill Rd., Dry Branch, Ga., 714-2003. Cost is \$100 per five member team and includes all equipment and 500 paintballs per person. To participate, sign up at Equipment Rental Center, Building 914, by Feb. 13. For more information, e-mail Robins Paintball Club president Josh Norman at joshua.norman@robins.af.mil.

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U.S. Air Force photos by Ms. Sue Sapp

## February is the month for children’s dental health

Above, Alex the Alligator greets Marissa McCoy, 1, and her mother, Staff Sgt. Jennifer Vargas at the kickoff for the National Children’s Dental Health Month Tuesday at the 78th Medical Group Clinic. Right, Robins Elementary School first-grader Marley Lynch signs the dental health month proclamation as Col. Richard G. Griffith, 78th Medical Group commander, looks on. For more information on dental health, visit the American Dental Association Web site at [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org) and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Web site at [www.aapd.org](http://www.aapd.org).



## Enlisted aide positions available

The Air Force Senior Leader Management Office is soliciting enthusiastic, mature and professional senior airman through master sergeants with the right attitude and sound culinary skills to fill future enlisted aide openings at many locations around the Air Force.

Applications are being accepted until Feb. 13 at the following locations:

- Scott Air Force Base, Ill. - ASAP
- Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. - April 1
- Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. - to be

determined

Packages should be prepared in accordance with AFI 36-2123 and mailed to: Senior Master Sgt. Murdock, AFSLMO 1215 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Suite 1002, Arlington, VA 22202.

For more information or assistance in putting your package together, contact Master Sgt. Andrea Johnson, Base Career Assistance advisor, at 327-7356 or e-mail [andrea.johnson@robins.af.mil](mailto:andrea.johnson@robins.af.mil).

– From staff reports

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